

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 19, 2004

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. (Doctor of the day introduced.) Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first item of business this morning, confirmation report is offered by the Natural Resources Committee.

SPEAKER BROMM: The Chair would recognize Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, on February 12, the Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to confirm two people to the Environmental Quality Council. Both are reappointments. It's a 16-member council. The first one was Dr. Janet Bernard, from North Platte. She is a graduate from UNL, receiving her medical degree in family medicine from the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. She practices with the Family Medical Associates in North Platte. The recount...the council is required to have a physician, and she fills that position. The second person is James Whitaker. He is a graduate of UNL and received his law degree from the University of Denver School of Law. He currently serves as mayor of North Platte, active with the League of Municipalities, serves on the Great Plains Regional Medical Center Board and the North Platte Development Corps Board. Mayor Whitaker represents municipal government on the council. The Natural Resources Committee voted unanimous to recommend their appointment to the full Legislature, on a vote of 7 for and 1 absent. And a little note, it's my understanding they are both reappointments, and they have both been good members who have attended the meetings.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It's my privilege to concur with the appointments and the reappointment of Dr. Janet Bernard and of Mayor James Whitaker. Both of them are very active citizens in the city of North Platte. They are both extremely interested in environmental matters. Dr. Bernard has a very active practice dealing a great deal with ob-gyn and pediatric matters. She is a reappointment. And she's very interested in doing this and would do a...continue to do an